

42592



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of	:	
	:	
ECKHARD KÖNIG	:	PATENT
	:	
Serial No.: 09/980,854	:	Art Unit: 3729
	:	
Filed: December 7, 2001	:	Examiner: T. D. Phan
	:	
For: METHOD FOR PRODUCING A FLAT	:	
COMMUTATOR (Amended)	:	

**SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Supplementing the previously filed Amendment responsive to the November 14, 2003 Office Action, Applicant submits the following comments.

In addition to the previously submitted remarks and arguments, in the Gerlach patent, any metal which is cut, if any, and then coated with a protection layer would be coated in a traditional manner for such metals involving a current disposition. Such current disposition according to the conventional way of depositing metal is commonly referred to as electroplating, as described for example in U.S. Patent No. 6,080,497 to Carey (see particularly column 22, line 19). Electroplating is a process of coating metal by means of an electric current. Thus, any suggestion of a coating of

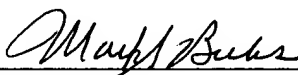
the cut surfaces would be by a current disposition and not a currentless disposition as recited in the present claimed invention.

The present claimed invention goes against conventional methods by using a currentless disposition, as opposed to a current disposition, for these particular surfaces of the segment support parts exposed by separation of the segment support parts. Coating these surfaces by electroplating was found to produce poor results. Surprisingly, using a currentless disposition resulted in good coverage and good protection of the surfaces exposed by separation of the support parts. Such currentless disposition has no external current or voltage source, with the part surfaces being coated only by being placed in a solution or suspension comprising the substance forming the coating material. Since currentless disposition is more expensive than electroplating, the Gerlach patent in fact teaches away from the use of such currentless disposition.

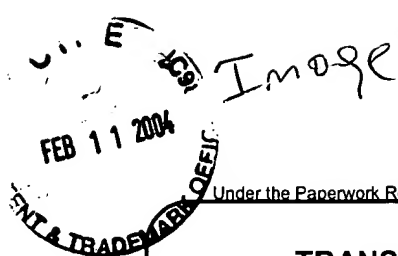
For the reasons presented above and those presented previously, claims 11-18 are allowable. Prompt and favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Feb. 11, 2004

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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AF/3729

PTO/SB/21 (01-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	09/980,854	
	Filing Date	December 7, 2001	
	First Named Inventor	Eckhard Konig	
	Art Unit	3729	
	Examiner Name	T. D. PHan	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	16	Attorney Docket Number	42592

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	Supplemental Response
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application		
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		
<b>SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT</b>		
Firm or Individual	Mark S. Bicks ROYLANCE, ABRAMS, BERDO & GOODMAN, L.L.P.	
Signature		
Date	February 11, 2004	

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date: _____		
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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# FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2004

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$)-0-

## Complete if Known

Application Number 09/980,854  
Filing Date December 7, 2001  
First Named Inventor Eckhard Konig  
Examiner Name T. D. Phan  
Art Unit 3729  
Attorney Docket No. 42592



### METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

☐ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other ☒ None

☒ Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number  
Deposit Account Name

18-2220

Roylance, Abrams, Berdo & Goodman, L.L.P.

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☐ Credit any overpayments

☒ Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s)

☐ Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

### FEE CALCULATION

#### 1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001 770	2001 385	Utility filing fee	
1002 340	2002 170	Design filing fee	
1003 530	2003 265	Plant filing fee	
1004 770	2004 385	Reissue filing fee	
1005 160	2005 80	Provisional filing fee	
SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)			

#### 2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
8	-20** = 0	X	-0-
1	-3** = 0	X	-0-
Multiple Dependent			

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description
1202 18	2202 9	Claims in excess of 20
1201 86	2201 43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203 290	2203 145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204 86	2204 43	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205 18	2205 9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$)-0-

\*\*or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

### FEE CALCULATION (continued)

#### 3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051 130	2051 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052 50	2052 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053 130	1053 130	Non-English specification	
1812 2,520	1812 2,520	For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	
1804 920*	1804 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805 1,840*	1805 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251 110	2251 55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252 420	2252 210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253 950	2253 475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254 1,480	2254 740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255 2,010	2255 1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401 330	2401 165	Notice of Appeal	
1402 330	2402 165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403 290	2403 145	Request for oral hearing	
1451 1,510	1451 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452 110	2452 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453 1,330	2453 665	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501 1,330	2501 665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502 480	2502 240	Design issue fee	
1503 640	2503 320	Plant issue fee	
1460 130	1460 130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807 50	1807 50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806 180	1806 180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021 40	8021 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809 770	2809 385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810 770	2810 385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	
1801 770	2801 385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802 900	1802 900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

\*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$)

### SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type) Mark S. Bicks  
Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) 28,770  
Telephone (202) 659-90  
Signature *Mark S. Bicks*  
Date February 11, 2004

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